

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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April 15, 2016

Stephanie Toothman, Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW (2280)
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Toothman,

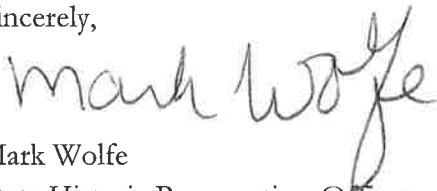
On January 23, 2016, the Texas State Board of Review considered the National Register nomination of the Lions Municipal Golf Course in Austin. By a unanimous vote, the nomination was approved under Criteria A at the local level of significance in the area of Entertainment/Recreation, and at the national level of significance in the area of Social History.

The Texas Historical Commission concurs that the property retains sufficient integrity to be listed in the National Register, and is eligible at the local level of significance in the area of Entertainment/Recreation as an important public recreational facility in the City of Austin. The property is also clearly eligible at the state level of significance as the first public golf course in Texas to desegregate, which occurred when African American golfers played the course in late 1950.

The applicant presents a compelling case that Lions Municipal Golf Course was the first integrated public golf course in the south, and as such merits listing at the national level of significance. But discussions during the board meeting and materials presented by the property owner (also enclosed) raise an interesting question as to when the effective integration of a particular property type rises to the level of national significance. We therefore request substantive review of the nomination and your assessment of the property's national significance under Criterion A.

We are enclosing letters of support and comments submitted by the applicant, in addition to materials submitted by the property owner, the University of Texas. Thank you for your consideration, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
Texas Historical Commission

